

WRA
7/18/42

NOTICE AND GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS
TO JAPANESE SEEKING REPATRIATION

1. The acceptance of a formal request for repatriation by the War Relocation Authority does not bind the government of the United States to grant repatriation.

2. Any person who submits a request form may telegraph at government expense, through the Project Director, to members of his immediate family (see definition below) who are living in other Centers, Detention Camps, or are at known addresses in other States, for the purpose of determining their desires as to repatriation.

3. The filing of a repatriation request form does not bind the individual or family concerned to accept repatriation at a later date if changed circumstances make it inadvisable at that time. However, persons applying for repatriation who are American citizens must understand that by so applying they indicate their willingness to forfeit such citizenship.

4. A request for repatriation will be accepted from any person 18 years of age or older, who was born in Japan, or who was born in the United States and has dual citizenship.

5. Each individual who is 18 years of age or older and is eligible to request repatriation, must fill in and sign an individual form. A child under 18 years of age must conform to the decision of its parent or guardian. Thus a family consisting of a father, mother, two children 18 years of age or older, and two children under 18 years of age must submit four individual requests (the father, mother, and two older children) if the entire family wishes to be repatriated. The two younger children will be listed on the father's form as minor dependents.

6. When an individual becomes eligible for repatriation, the members of his immediate family also are eligible. The immediate family includes the spouse (husband or wife), a dependent mother, a dependent father, an unmarried child who may be a foster child, stepchild, adopted child, or ward.

7. Where two or more persons in a family wish to be repatriated together a "Family Summary Form" must be submitted with the individual request form.

8. Since individual request forms prepared for submission to the War Relocation Authority will be available in Relocation Centers, they cannot be filled in personally by members of the family in other places. A responsible member of the family in the Center may make out the form for such a person after communicating with him (or her). The signature on such a form should clearly show the name of the person who is responsible for it as well as the name and other facts about the person for whom repatriation is being requested.

9. Each individual 18 years of age and over will be permitted to execute his (or her) form in private and to sign it in the presence only of the Project Director or a non-Japanese employee designated by him.

10. All forms must be filled in and signed in triplicate (three copies). All of the information except the signature may be typewritten. Clearly printed entries are preferred to ordinary handwriting. Japanese characters may not be used except in the signature of persons who write only in Japanese. Persons unable to write in either English or Japanese will make an X mark for the signature on the signature line, after which X mark will be written his name in full, by the Project Director or other witness; this mark to be witnessed by a near relative or friend.

11. The Project Director, or a non-Japanese employee designated by him, will receive, examine, and forward the completed forms to the Repatriation Section, War Relocation Authority, 1231 Market Street, San Francisco, California. The forms should be signed and given to the Project Director not later than July 24, 1942, if possible.

WESTERN DEFENSE COMMAND AND FOURTH ARMY
Office of Assistant Chief of Staff, Civil Affairs Division
WARTIME CIVIL CONTROL ADMINISTRATION

INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE
"INDIVIDUAL REQUEST FOR REPATRIATION"

Before reading the following specific instructions for the "Individual Request for Repatriation" form, read the "Notice and General Instructions" prepared for those Japanese who wish to be repatriated.

The following instructions must be followed in filling in the individual request form. Assistance will be given by the Assembly Center Manager or by his representative, but the sole responsibility for the proper preparation of this form must rest upon the person who signs it.

ITEM 1. Name. (a) Print your present name, that under which you are registered with the Wartime Civil Control Administration. (b) Give all other names by which you have been known here or abroad, including maiden name; if a married woman, professional names, and nicknames.

ITEM 2. Personal Description. (a) Show your sex, and (e) your marital status by check marks in the proper boxes. (b) Give month, day and year of birth. (c) Enter age at last birthday. (d) Give your height in feet and inches; your weight in pounds. (f) Name the city in which or nearest to the place where you were born. Also name the province (Ken) and the country.

ITEM 3. Citizenship. Show by a check in the proper box whether you are a citizen of Japan, or of the United States, or have a dual citizenship. If a citizen of Japan, give your Alien Registration Number.

ITEM 4. Entry into the United States. (a) Give the port or place and the date of your last arrival into the United States. (b) State the name of the vessel or other means of transportation, as railroad, bus, auto, etc., by which you arrived on the date and at the place given in 4 (a) above. (c) Check the answer which describes how you last arrived. If none of the specific answers applies, write in the space following "Other" how you arrived. (d) Show by a check in the proper box the classification under which you last entered the United States. If none of the specific answers applies, write in the space following "Other" your classification at the time of last arrival.

ITEM 5. Residence Outside the United States. List all periods of residence outside of the United States, including all visits to countries other than the United States, for whatever purpose (education, business, vacation, etc.) during which you were absent from the United States for one month or more. For each such period of absence from the United States give the month and year of departure, the month and year of return, the country or countries visited, and your occupation, activity, or purpose of travel during that period.

ITEM 6. Educational History. List each separate school attendance or period of formal education or training. Give the name of the school, its location in terms of place and country and the beginning and ending of each period of attendance. If this schooling occurred in Japan or any other foreign country, classify it as to the approximate equivalent of American schools as listed under "type of school."

ITEM 7. Employment History. List each separate occupation, employer or place of employment you have had during the past five (5) years. The first entry should be the last employment you had before coming to the Assembly Center; the next entry, the immediately previous employment, etc. The month and year of beginning and of ending each period of employment should be given under "From" and "To", respectively. Write in the proper columns your occupation, the name of your employer or the kind of business engaged in, if in business for yourself, and the city or town where employed. Show any breaks in employment because of unemployment, school attendance, illness of one month or more, etc.

ITEM 8. Residence Addresses. Give the required information for each residence address at which you lived for one month or more during the last five (5) years. List first the most recent address, then the immediately previous address, etc.

ITEM 9. Relatives in the United States and in Other Countries. Give the name, relationship to yourself, sex, age and present place of residence of the following relatives: Your father, mother, husband or wife, children (including foster and adopted children), and your brothers and sisters. Each such person who is now living should be listed, whether they live in the United States, Japan or any other country, and whether or not they are members of your immediate household. List also your wife's parents and her brothers and sisters if they are living with you in your immediate household.

Certificate. The certificate at the end of the form should be signed by you in the presence of the Center Manager or an employee named by him. If you cannot write your name in English, Japanese characters will be accepted, but all of the other entries on the form must be in English.

Rept.



WARTIME CIVIL CONTROL ADMINISTRATION
1231 Market Street
San Francisco, California

August 26, 1942

SUBJECT: Regulations and Instructions Governing the Repatriation of
Japanese Nationals in Assembly Centers and Relocation Projects

TO : All Assembly Center Managers
All War Relocation Project Directors
(NOT for distribution to evacuees)

For the Assistant Chief of Staff
Civil Affairs Division

William A. Boekel

William A. Boekel
Lt. Col., F.A.
Ass't. A.C. of S.

OFFICIAL

Albert H. Moffitt, Jr.
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Captain, F.A.
Executive Officer

REGULATIONS AND INSTRUCTIONS
GOVERNING THE REPATRIATION OF JAPANESE NATIONALS
IN ASSEMBLY CENTERS AND RELOCATION PROJECTS

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REGULATIONS AND INSTRUCTIONS
GOVERNING THE REPATRIATION OF JAPANESE NATIONALS
IN ASSEMBLY CENTERS AND RELOCATION PROJECTS

(For use of Center Managers, Project Directors and
staff members, only. NOT for distribution to evacuees)

Section 1. Eligibility for repatriation.

a. Persons who are Japanese nationals or who are of Japanese descent become immediately eligible for repatriation when their names appear on an official list prepared by the State Department. Such lists are transmitted to the WCCA, the WRA and other agencies having custody of, or information about Japanese in the United States. These agencies then take steps: (1) To determine whether the listed persons and their dependents desire to be repatriated; and if so (2) to assist them in arranging their affairs; and (3) transport them to the place from which the repatriation vessel will sail.

b. In addition to those persons whose names appear on the State Department list, all persons who are members of the immediate families of listed persons have derivative rights and are ordinarily eligible for repatriation. However, all persons who may be eligible because of derivative rights must be cleared with the WCCA office before this fact can be established.

c. The "immediate family" includes all of the following:

- (1) The spouse
- (2) Dependent parent, grandparents
- (3) All unmarried children living in the immediate household of the family, including adult children. (Children includes stepchildren, foster children.) Married children, and brothers and sisters of eligible persons are not included.

d. In some instances the wife and children are separated from the husband. That is, the woman and children may be listed as eligible but the man is not. Should the wife and children of a Japanese man who is not immediately eligible for repatriation desire to return to Japan without him, they will be permitted to do so.

e. The fact that a person's name does not appear on any State Department list up to this time does not mean that such a person will never have the opportunity for repatriation. It is understood that new lists are being prepared for future exchanges, between the United States and Japan.

Section 2. Persons who have requested repatriation.

a. Many families in Assembly Centers and Relocation Projects have availed themselves of the opportunity to request repatriation by submitting a properly filled out "Individual Request for Repatriation" (Form R-100). This procedure was instituted to make it easier for residents in Assembly Centers and Relocation Projects to make their desires known to the State Department and other government agencies concerned with this problem. All such requests are submitted to the interested agencies and will be considered in the preparation of future lists of repatriation. Any person who wishes to submit such a request at this time may do so.

b. When a final list of persons eligible for repatriation is received by the WCCA from the State Department it is broken up into individual lists according to the place of residence of the listed person. The Center Manager or Project Director should consult each listed person and determine whether he (or she) wishes to accept repatriation.

c. Only those persons whose names appear on the list, or who have derivative rights because they are members of the immediate families of listed persons, should be consulted. It is permissible, of course, to request information as to the present location of listed persons who have been given permits to leave the Center or Project, or concerning members of the family who have not been evacuated to Centers or Projects.

d. It is not possible for an individual or family declining repatriation to transfer eligibility for repatriation to an unlisted person or family.

Section 3. Acceptance of repatriation.

a. Any eligible person may accept repatriation merely by expressing to the Center Manager or Project Director (or a designated employee of the Center or Project) his desire to be repatriated. If he has already filled out an "Individual Request for Repatriation" (Form R-100) no further "paper work" is necessary in the acceptance procedure. If an "Individual Request for Repatriation" has not been executed, this form should be filled out in duplicate and given to the Manager or Director as evidence of the desire for, and acceptance of repatriation.

b. Persons eligible for repatriation are not required to accept

repatriation if they do not wish to do so, but rejection of repatriation will not operate in their favor to facilitate release from a Center or Project or otherwise change their status. If an eligible person declines repatriation when initially offered he does not thereby make himself ineligible in the future if his name again appears on an official list.

c. Prior to release from the Center or Project any person who accepts repatriation must submit to such regulations and perform such duties relating to income tax, customs inspection, contraband inspection, disposition of property, etc., as may be applicable in his case.

d. Eligible persons who accept repatriation have certain privileges such as: (1) Communicating at government expense, through the Center Manager or Project Director, with relatives concerning their decision and in order to make the necessary preparations; (2) having certain stored personal property brought to the Assembly Center or Relocation Project (See Section 9); and (3) receiving, by special permission on other than regular visitor's hours and days, visitors with whom they have necessary business to conclude in order to prepare for repatriation.

Section 4. Declination of repatriation.

a. Each eligible person who is 18 years of age or older has the right to determine for himself (or herself) whether he (or she) will accept or reject the offer to be repatriated. A child who has not attained its 18th birthday, must abide by the decision of its parents or guardian. A married person, however, of whatever age, may make his or her own election as to repatriation.

b. Any eligible person who is 18 years of age or older and does not wish to return to Japan shall, in complete privacy, sign the following declaration. The declaration must be prepared and signed in five copies, all of which will be forwarded to the Wartime Civil Control Administration, attention Dr. C. L. Dedrick. Copies of these forms must be transmitted by this headquarters to the State Department as evidence of the action of the eligible individual.

c. The form of declaration shall be:

"DECLARATION.

I, (insert name), hereby declare that I am eligible for repatriation and have been so advised, and that I do not now wish to go to the Empire of Japan nor otherwise to be repatriated."

(Signature) _____

(Date) _____

Section 5. Date of departure.

a. The Center Manager or Project Director will be informed by the WCCA concerning the date when persons who have accepted repatriation will leave the Center or Project in order to arrive at the port of embarkation on schedule.

Section 6. Transportation to port of embarkation.

a. Persons who elect to be repatriated will be transported to the port of embarkation and maintained until the sailing date at government expense. All travel to the port of embarkation will be arranged by the WCCA. Travel from Relocation Projects to the train will be arranged by the WRA subject to WCCA supervision and direction. Personal baggage consisting of not more than three suit cases (or hand bags) and not more than 30 cubic feet of "hold" baggage may be taken free of charge. (See Section 9 for detailed instructions concerning baggage.)

Section 7. Personal funds.

a. Each person 21 years of age or older who elects to be repatriated may take not more than \$300 out of the United States. An emancipated child under 21 years of age who is eligible and traveling alone, may take \$300 from the United States. This sum may be drawn from a checking or savings account even though such an account has been "blocked" under provisions of law and regulations governing enemy alien funds (See Section 8).

b. Persons with accounts which are not "blocked" are free to withdraw such funds as may be necessary for the purchase of clothing, baggage, etc., but in no case may more than \$300 in cash per adult be taken from the United States.

Section 8. Blocked accounts.

a. The repatriate should be informed in reference to blocked accounts as follows: Any Japanese alien who has been in the United States continuously since June 17, 1940, is now considered to be a generally licensed person. A family consisting of more than one adult may withdraw not to exceed an aggregate of \$300 per adult person from the blocked accounts of any or all members of the family. The remainder of the funds will attain the status of a blocked account the moment the alien steps aboard the SS Gripsholm, and he will not thereafter be able to deal with his funds as a generally licensed person. For this reason the alien repatriate should appoint an attorney-in-fact, preferably a corporate trustee. Such attorney-in-fact will then be able to conduct the necessary business of the repatriate, such as the payments of taxes,

rent, insurance, the receiving and depositing of moneys, etc. The attorney-in-fact will also be able to obtain special licenses for the use of the blocked funds as may be necessary. Such power of attorney should be acknowledged before a notary public if it is also to be used in connection with the handling of real estate. Should the repatriate be unable to arrange for the granting of such power of attorney, his property will be taken charge of and administered by the Alien Property Custodian. In like manner, the Alien Property Custodian will take charge of the property of Japanese-Americans who fail or are not able to make the necessary arrangements for the management of their properties through an attorney-in-fact or trustee.

Section 9. Baggage regulations.

a. Each person, regardless of age, may take without charge, 30 cubic feet of "hold" baggage and, in addition thereto, three suit cases which will be carried on the train and as stateroom baggage on the vessel. "Hold" baggage, that is baggage which will be shipped below decks on the boats, may include trunks and boxes with handles, provided the boxes are not larger than trunks. "Hold" baggage cannot be opened between the time of its inspection at the Center or Project and its embarkation. Labels will be provided for both "hold" and hand baggage.

b. If more than 30 cubic feet of "hold" baggage and three suit cases per person is to be taken out of the United States, all baggage in excess of amounts indicated must be shipped at the expense of the repatriate. (It is understood that the cost for shipping such baggage by railroad freight to the port of embarkation amounts to about \$6.00 per 100 pounds, and a charge of 85¢ per cubic foot will be made for the ship).

c. Evacuees are advised against taking baggage in excess of that which is shipped free of charge as specified above. Excess baggage is expensive and delivery aboard the repatriation vessel cannot be guaranteed. ONLY hand and normal "hold" baggage accompanies the repatriation train. No government agency can assume the responsibility for the delivery of such excess baggage and private arrangements must be made for its delivery.

d. If the repatriate owns personal property which is privately stored or in the custody of a public warehouseman located at some distance from an Assembly Center or Relocation Project, the repatriate may arrange at his own expense for the delivery of such stored property at the Assembly Center or Relocation Project for the purpose of selecting therefrom such personal property as may permissibly be taken to Japan. The repatriate may also make appropriate arrangements for the storage, at his own expense, of any such personal property as may not be taken by him to Japan. As indicated in Paragraph 8, the repatriate

should make arrangements for the care of property not taken to Japan by the appointment of a trustee or attorney-in-fact. Should the repatriate be unable to complete these arrangements, the Alien Property Custodian will take charge of and administer such property.

e. All baggage which is to be shipped must be inspected and sealed at the Assembly Center or Relocation Project prior to departure and cannot again be opened before embarkation.

f. Eligible persons should notify the Manager or Director immediately concerning what disposition he wishes to make of any baggage or property he is not able to take with him. (See Section 12 on Property of Evacuees.)

Section 10. Contraband and articles which may not be taken by repatriates.

a. All baggage will be inspected by agents of the United States Customs and by Officers of the Interior Security Police before it leaves the Center or Project. All "hold" baggage will be sealed immediately after inspection. The inspection of suitcases and hand bags which are carried by the repatriates on the train will be made immediately before departure from the Center or Project and may not be opened again until on the train.

b. All contraband and articles which may not be taken out of the United States will be removed from the baggage at the time of inspection. A receipt for such articles will be given to the repatriate. Such contraband will be kept separate and apart from other contraband in the Center or Project for ultimate disposal in accordance with law or international agreement.

c. The following general class of articles cannot be taken from the Assembly Center or Relocation Project by any Japanese repatriate:

- (1) Any printed matter or documents (except passports). This includes books of all types, diaries, notebooks, files and papers, etc.
- (2) Any financial papers. This includes stocks, bonds, notes and bills receivable, mortgages, deeds, and all other evidences of property ownership, credit or debit.
- (3) Photographs, paintings, sketches, (except portraits) or maps.
- (4) Radios, pianos and furniture.
- (5) Sewing machines.

- (6) Fire-arms.
- (7) Gold objects, except ordinary personal ornaments, and jewelry.
- (8) Any other article which might contain information helpful to the enemy or which might be convertible into international credits.
- (9) All articles which are classified as contraband by proclamation of the Commanding General of the Western Defense Command and Fourth Army or by respective regulations of Assembly Centers and Relocation Projects.
- (10) All articles the exportation of which require export license under Federal regulations.

d. As indicated by the above list the only goods which may be taken with repatriates are personal effects such as clothing, silver, or art objects (other than those classified as documents, printed matter or furniture), and personal jewelry. Automobiles, refrigerators and machinery of all types are excluded in the definition of personal effects for this purpose

e. The Center Manager or Project Director will arrange an appropriate time and place for the inspection of baggage by officers assigned to this function by the United States Customs and by the Chief of Interior Security of the Assembly Center or the corresponding officer of the Relocation Project. The Manager or Director will also provide for the safe storage of sealed baggage from the time of inspection until the departure of the repatriate from the Center or Project. For purposes of this, properly accredited officials of the United States Customs shall be granted permits to enter Assembly Centers and Relocation Projects.

Section 11. Income tax returns and settlements.

a. All repatriates who are wage earners or who have received any income during the past year are required to make a complete statement concerning income and expenditures as required by the Bureau of Internal Revenue, Income Tax Division.

b. The Center Manager or Project Director will inform all repatriates concerning this matter and will deliver to them such forms and literature as may be provided for this purpose by the Bureau of Internal Revenue. To complete the filing of such returns and to collect income tax due from repatriates, officials of the Bureau of Internal Revenue shall be granted free access to repatriates in Centers and Projects and shall be provided with such facilities as may be necessary for interview-repatriates.

Section 12. Property of evacuees (other than baggage and money).

a. In addition to bank accounts, discussed in Section 8 above, some repatriates may own real or other personal property. Before repatriation each eligible person should make such arrangements as may be necessary for the custody or management of all property which he is not allowed to take with him. All property which is not disposed of by the repatriate, or for which management has not been provided through an attorney-in-fact or trustee, will be delivered to the custody of the Alien Property Custodian for disposition in accordance with law.

Section 13. Communication with relatives.

a. Persons who are eligible for repatriation may communicate by telephone or telegraph at government expense with relatives concerning this decision and in order to make the necessary preparations for repatriation. Such messages are to be sent by the Manager or Director on behalf of the evacuee. If the message is for the purpose of communicating with evacuee relatives in other Centers or Projects, or with internee relatives, the message will be sent to the Center Manager (or Director) or to the Commanding Officer of the internment camp by the Manager or Director. Otherwise the communication cannot be at government expense.

Section 14. Persons transferred from Assembly Centers to Relocation Projects.

a. The repatriation of Japanese Nationals should not be suspended in any case because of the prospective transfer of the repatriate from an Assembly Center to a Relocation Project. The WCCA and WRA are undertaking joint action in this matter so that repatriation activities initiated in an Assembly Center can be completed in a Relocation Project without interruption or change of procedure.

b. The Manager of Assembly Centers which are in process of being transferred to Relocation Projects will observe the following rule:

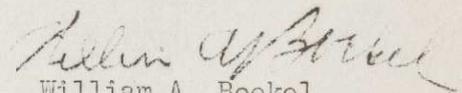
If the freight and baggage of a person (or family) which is eligible for repatriation has not been transferred to the Relocation Project it should be held and his transfer should not be made. If, however, the freight and baggage has already been forwarded and the evacuee cannot travel to Japan with the baggage remaining in his possession, he should be transferred immediately to the Project, reunited with his baggage and then transported from that Project with its other repatriates.

a. Repatriates are not required to have Japanese passports and need take no steps to secure such passports before embarkation. If, however, the repatriate has a properly issued passport it shall be carefully inspected by the Interior Security Police and if satisfactory shall be returned to the repatriate before he leaves the Center or Project.

Section 16. Responsibility for internees and detained aliens.

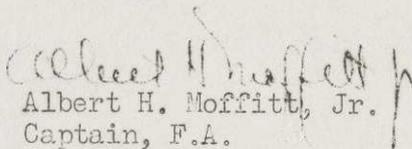
a. By arrangement with other departments of the government the WCCA may become responsible for the maintenance and transportation of internees and of aliens in West Coast Detention Camps who are immediately eligible for repatriation. Such persons may be transferred for a short period to Assembly Centers. The Center Manager will be given special instructions governing the processing and inspection of all such cases.

For the Assistant Chief of Staff
Civil Affairs Division



William A. Boekel
Lt. Col., F.A.
Ass't. A.C. of S.

OFFICIAL:



Albert H. Moffitt, Jr.
Captain, F.A.
Executive Officer

Blizzard

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WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY

Washington

September 11, 1943

RESTRICTED -- NOT FOR QUOTATION

To: All Project Directors

Subject: Repatriation

Distribution: E

After something like a year of negotiations between the United States and Japan looking to an exchange of Nationals, the Gripsholm has sailed, headed for the small Portugese port of Mormugao on the West Coast of India, where it is expected 1500 Americans from the Far East will be taken aboard and brought back to the Americas. The sailing of the Gripsholm on September 2 ended a period of intense activity on the part of nearly a dozen government agencies working closely as a team doing an emergency job in quick time. WRA has had an important part in this work and sent three hundred and eighty-one evacuees to Jersey City. Three hundred fourteen of these actually sailed on the Gripsholm, but fifty-five are being returned to WRA and twelve are being sent to Crystal City since they were taken as part of a small reservoir for use at the last minute in filling up any vacancies that might occur by reason of illness or other withdrawals approved by the Spanish Ambassador. There were about sixty repatriates from Canada, and something over a thousand from internment camps, many of whom were South Americans held in the United States pending the sailing of the Gripsholm.

As you know, Ralph Stauber has had full responsibility at this end for the planning and execution of the repatriation movement as far as the WRA is concerned. He has just reported to me with considerable enthusiasm the splendid cooperation he has had from every project. Without a single exception everyone who was called on to do a job has done it even if it meant turning a handspring or two to get it done. We both want to take this opportunity of expressing our very sincere appreciation to you and to all members of our staff who have had a part in doing this job.

In retrospect it may be interesting to you to have some details which there was no time to communicate earlier, for when things began to break they broke fast. Although we do not know all of the issues involved during the year of negotiation, it is clear that officials actually "in the know" were quite pessimistic at times over the outcome. However, in the late spring and early summer a wave of greater optimism developed. Then about the middle of August we were advised that the Japanese had expressed great amazement that so many of the persons they had named had indicated they did not want to return to Japan. The total, I think, was some-

thing better than three thousand declinations. Then shortly after this note came word from Japan that unless the exchange could be accomplished at Mormugao on or before October 15 the whole exchange was definitely off. Inasmuch as the exchange vessel was the only means of getting greatly needed Red Cross supplies to the Far East the imperative necessity for meeting this deadline was apparent. The October 15 exchange at Mormugao required a sailing from New York no later than September 1. This gave all agencies considerably less time than any of us, including the State Department, had previously anticipated. Assistant Secretary of State Breckinridge Long immediately called a meeting of all agencies involved in the exchange to discuss ways and means of getting the necessary things done to meet the September 1 deadline. Without exception the agencies agreed to cut any necessary corners and get the job done. This required a singleness of effort, and working to definite schedules and deadlines. It meant that names had to be transmitted altogether by telegraph or telephone; it meant in some cases adding new names submitted by the Spanish Ambassador after the main list had been transmitted; it meant a large amount of checking and double checking to clear up family problems, to fill places left by persons too ill to travel, and to insure inclusion of persons who had recently changed residence, as by parole from internment camp. Nevertheless, it is with considerable gratification that I am able to report that to the best of our knowledge every person in the hands of WRA on whom agreement was reached between the State Department and the Spanish Ambassador, was ready to be turned over to the State Department representative at the time the train left.

As you know, in some cases this meant preliminary transfers from one project to another. The general scheme, as far as the WRA is concerned, called for repatriates at Manzanar and Colorado River to be moved to Gila where they were given final inspection and put on the train at Phoenix Saturday night. Repatriates at Tule Lake and Heart Mountain were transferred to the Fort Missoula Internment Camp and put on the train Sunday afternoon. Repatriates at Central Utah were transferred to Minidoka and put on the train at Shoshone Sunday afternoon. Those at Granada were processed there and picked up on a train from one of the internment camps Monday night. Repatriates from Jerome were moved to Rohwer and put on the train at McGehee Sunday evening. According to my information, plans went equally well at internment camps where others were processed.

Last minute agreements with the Japanese concerning the exchange and related matters required some modification in our previous understandings and instructions, notably with respect to space available for "hold baggage" of children. We also received further amplification of prohibited articles. Last minute developments made it necessary to tighten down in certain other respects. Basically, however, the program was carried through as originally conceived.

Everyone who has had any part in getting this job done on time can justly feel that he has helped in a very real and positive way not only toward getting 1500 Americans out of the Far East, but also towards moving much needed Red Cross supplies to captured American soldiers in great need, and

towards laying the groundwork for future exchanges to get back several thousand additional Americans still believed to be in the Far East.

There is some hope, I believe, that additional exchanges may be arranged, although it is anything but certain as yet, and much will undoubtedly depend upon the reports concerning their treatment which the people on the present exchange take back to Japan, and on whether the Japanese Government considers that the American Government has fulfilled its commitments with regard to the handling of the exchange and meeting Japanese requirements concerning persons to be exchanged. On the first exchange apparently considerable dissatisfaction was occasioned by the fact that in the very short time available it was impossible to secure a complete boat load of persons named by the Japanese, and accordingly some persons not named were put on the boat. Even so, the load was short a small number below capacity, and apparently the Japanese Government has complained bitterly on both scores. Hence, the State Department at the request of the Spanish Ambassador arranged a small reservoir of perhaps a hundred approved names in excess of the boat's capacity to provide insurance against a similar occurrence on this exchange. Such of this group as are not actually exchanged will be sent either to Crystal City or eventually to Tule Lake, depending on whether the head of the family is an internee.

In looking forward to a further exchange, I think it is particularly important that we in WRA take every opportunity to impress upon each evacuee who has requested repatriation that the United States Government looks on his request as having been made in good faith, and that if and when arrangements can be made for his inclusion on a sailing list the United States Government expects him to sail, and not to ask for cancellation at the last minute. On this exchange, cancellations of the names of aliens have been made only at the request of the Spanish Ambassador representing Japanese interests. I anticipate that experience with cancellations on this exchange will result in tightening down the restrictions for the next exchange with respect to changes after agreement on lists is reached between the two Governments. Consequently, persons who do not want to go to Japan should get their cancellations in immediately. They must not expect favorable action on last minute declinations. Everyone should understand that he has complete freedom of choice, but that choice should be made now and not delayed until sailing lists are nearly complete.

On the basis of the experience we have had on this movement there may be changes in procedure that should be made for the next. We shall probably make some changes in existing instructions, particularly with respect to withdrawals. In this connection I would appreciate it if we might have comments from each project concerning the handling of this movement, and any suggestions for the future. Since the whole plan involves several agencies, some discussion with them may be necessary before final plans are perfected. However, if we have your views we will be in much better position to negotiate than otherwise.

Again, I am highly gratified with the teamwork and cooperation displayed in handling this movement, and wish to commend you and your staff for your part. On the basis of this experience and the planning to date I am looking forward to the program of segregation being handled in the same efficient manner.

D. S. Meyer
Director

OM-287

WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY
Washington

*Internee
Repatriation*

Negotiations have been under way for some time between the United States Government and the Empire of Japan, looking to the exchange of Americans in Japan for Japanese in the United States. The WRA has now been requested by the State Department to inform you that your name has been included in a list of several thousand designated for repatriation by the Japanese Government, that the exchange vessel can take only 1500 Japanese at a time, that it is not yet possible to determine who will be included in the next exchange since negotiations are not completed and the final wishes of the Japanese Government in the matter of the next sailing list for the exchange vessel have not been stated.

It is desired, however, to learn which of the persons named by the Japanese Government desire to go to Japan if and when the opportunity offers in order to facilitate the preparation of sailing lists for the proposed successive exchanges when the negotiations have reached their conclusion.

A similar inquiry is being made to other members of your family now in Relocation Centers who have been named by the State Department. If you need to confer with members of your family in order to make your own decision, please do so promptly. If you need assistance in reaching any members of your family in other locations, the project Director will be glad to give you every possible aid. In order, however, that we may know definitely whether you now desire to go to Japan, and in order that the necessary arrangements can be completed, it is essential that you indicate your own decision by filling out the proper coupon below. This is necessary even if you have previously made application for repatriation, or have previously indicated that you do not desire to go to Japan.

In addition, if you desire to go to Japan and have not already filled out the form, "Individual Request for Repatriation", Form R-100, you should do so now, filling out four copies. This Form R-100 you may secure from the Project Director. If you do not desire to go to Japan, please fill out the form "Declaration of Declination" WRA 152a. Fill out five copies of this form, which are attached.

If you were born in the United States and have retained American citizenship, you will not be sent to Japan unless you choose to go. Naturally, at the present stage of negotiations, the United States Government is not in a position to promise that any Japanese expressing a desire to be repatriated will be repatriated, but the wishes of everyone, whether for or against repatriation, will be given every possible consideration.

Sincerely yours,

Edm. Rowlett
Deputy Director

Cut here and return one of the following coupons to the Project Director

The undersigned will <u>accept</u> an offer to go to Japan:	The undersigned will <u>decline</u> an offer to go to Japan:
Name _____	Name _____
Date _____	Date _____
Age _____	Age _____
Place of Birth _____	Place of Birth _____

*Send one to the San Francisco office
soon as it is signed*

MINIDOKA

MINIDOKA

MINIDOKA

DECLARATION OF DECLINATION

I, _____ declare
that I have been informed that I am under consider-
ation for exchange to the Empire of Japan by reason
of the request of the Japanese Government. I
further declare that I desire to remain in the United
States and that I do not desire to go to the Empire
of Japan, nor otherwise to be repatriated to Japan.

Signature _____

Date _____

*5 - Copies
Retain two at the Project
Send three to the San Francisco Office*

WESTERN DEFENSE COMMAND AND FOURTH ARMY
Office of Assistant Chief of Staff, Civil Affairs Division
WARTIME CIVIL CONTROL ADMINISTRATION

INDIVIDUAL REQUEST FOR REPATRIATION
(Read attached instructions before filling in this form)

FOR OFFICE USE

Center	_____
Location	_____
Family No.	_____
Evacuated from	_____

1. NAME: (a) _____
(b) Other names: _____

2. PERSONAL DESCRIPTION: (a) Sex: Male Female
(b) Date of birth: _____ (c) Age _____
(d) Height: _____ feet, _____ inches. Weight: _____ pounds.
(e) Marital status: Single Married Widowed Divorced
(f) Place of birth: _____

3. CITIZEN OF: Japan United States Dual Citizen Alien Registration No. _____

4. ENTRY INTO THE UNITED STATES: (a) Last arrived in the United States at: _____
(Port or place of entry) _____ on _____ (Month, day, and year)

(b) Came in by _____ (Name of vessel, Steamship Co., or other means of transportation)
(c) Came as a (Check one): Passenger . . . Crew member . . . Stowaway . . . Other _____
(d) Entered the United States as a (Check one): Permanent resident Visitor Student Treaty merchant Seaman Official of a foreign government Employee of a foreign government official Other _____

5. RESIDENCE OUTSIDE THE UNITED STATES:

Departed	Returned	Country	Occupation or activity

6. EDUCATIONAL HISTORY (Include all schools attended, whether in the United States, Japan or any other country):

Type of school	Name of school	Location of school	From—	To—
Grammar school				
High school				
College and postgraduate				
Other school formal				

*5 - Copies
Retain two - at this project
Send three to the San Francisco office*

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I N S T R U C C I O N E S

REPATRIATION:

A. Departure of the next exchange vessel.

This office has as yet received no official word as to the exact date of the next exchange. Thus far there have been upwards of 8000 applicants for repatriation and besides these the Japanese Government has asked for about 3000 priorities. The exchange vessel accomodates about 1500 persons per trip. Only one ship has left so far, the departure of the second having been delayed for lack of agreement between the American and Japanese Governments on the priority list proposed by the latter. Presumably there will be a resumption of the exchanges, but we do not know when. It is impossible to estimate your chances of repatriation in view of the above circumstances.

B. Amount of luggage and money allowed to be taken in repatriation.

Each individual is allowed to take with him 32 cubic feet of luggage packed in trunks and valises, or, if boxes are used, an endeavor should be made to have them of equal size with handles at either end to facilitate handling.

\$300 per adult is allowed.

C. Type of things that may be taken and that are prohibited.

The Japanese Government initially prohibited the exportation by American being repatriated from Japan of books, printed matter, sketches, documents of any sort, gold objects, photographic apparatus and radios. Similar restrictions have been imposed by the American Government on Japanese being repatriated from the United States. Within the 32 cubic feet of baggage allowed Japanese may take with them such articles as clothing linen, silverware and other types of personal effects except those articles mentioned in the preceding sentence and such other materials of which the exportation is prohibited by the export control regulations of the United States Government.

The portuguese authorities have prohibited the export from the Lorenzo Marques of the following articles:

- Provisions or eatables
- Articles of clothing
- Shoes
- Medicines

D. Cost of the trip, to the port of embarkation.

Transportation to the departing ship will be taken care of by the Department of State in the case of Official personnel and in the case of those persons forced to leave the United States.

Those who are repatriating voluntarily will ~~have to~~ pay their own way.

Those who wish to repatriate and have not the funds will have to wait. NO provision has as yet been made for them although the Embassy has inquired of the Imperial Japanese Government in this matter.

E. Who may be repatriated besides Japanese nationals.

It has been concluded that in general American wives and children of enemy aliens will be granted permission to depart from the jurisdiction of the United States when the enemy aliens are about to leave the United States ~~as a result of an agreement~~ between the United States and an enemy country for the exchange of their nationals. However, American passports or other documentation as American citizens will not be issued to such wives and children.

It may be added that the citizenship of native American citizens is not affected solely by reason of protracted foreign residence.

The attitude of the United States Government toward the departure from this country in connection with exchanges of persons possessing both United States and Japanese nationality depends largely upon the circumstances and of each individual case. For example, the United States Government raised no objection to the departure of American citizens of Japanese race who were employed in the former Japanese diplomatic and consular establishments in this country. It likewise raised no objection to the departure with enemy aliens of their accompanying wives and children who might be able to obtain documents as enemy nationals.

Should United States citizens of Japanese race not covered in one of the foregoing categories apply for permission to travel to Japan in the exchange, the United States Government would naturally wish to examine their cases in the light of the peculiar circumstances surrounding each of them before indicating a decision whether such departure would be permissible.

F. Procedure.

An application for repatriation must be filed either with the Spanish Consulate in San Francisco or with the camp authorities. All applications have the same ultimate source. It is the American and Japanese Governments who make the decision of who is to go back to Japan and when. If accepted, you are notified directly by the Department of State about one week before the departure of the vessel.

If a family is separated, and one of its members receives the

"Order of repatriation", that member should immediately communicate to the authorities of the camp in which he is residing the following:

Whether he has a family
Whereabouts and address of same
Desire to be repatriated together

G. Compulsory or Voluntary Repatriation.

The United States Government does not propose generally to insist on the repatriation of Japanese nationals who do not wish to return to Japan.

The Japanese Government does not obligate any of its nationals to be repatriated.

H. Object of a form letter regarding repatriation which may have been received by some of the Japanese.

In the relocation centers and internment camps a form letter was placed before the individuals named for repatriation by the Japanese Government. The Department has no information to indicate that such forms were placed before persons not named by the Japanese Government. If such cases occurred they were undoubtedly errors caused by difficulty in identifying the Japanese nationals whom the Japanese Government had in mind in making up its repatriation list.

The action of the United States authorities in endeavoring to ascertain the repatriation wishes of all persons named for repatriation by the Japanese Government is justified by the recent request of that Government that all persons designated by the Japanese Government who have refused the offer of repatriation be re-canvassed regarding their desires in the matter. This clearly indicates that the Japanese Government wishes all such persons to be informed of its interest in their repatriation so that the final decision of such persons may be made with a full knowledge of the facts.

I. Telegrams requesting priority.

For those who desire to request priority from the Japanese Government, it is possible to send a telegram to the Japanese Government through the Spanish Consulate via Madrid at a cost of approximately \$10.00 depending upon the words necessary to express the reasons why such a person believes himself entitled to priority.

It must be pointed out, however, that a number of such messages have already been sent and this will necessarily have a tendency to minimize their effectiveness.

(La Embajada nos ha dicho que podemos hacer como mejor nos parece, pero aconsejan que no se manden mas telegramas por no tener eficacia.)

REHEARINGS:

A. procedure

Unfortunately at the present time it is impossible for an internee to be released to a relocation center without first having a favorable rehearing of his case. Application for such a rehearing may be made by the internee, member of his family, or friend to the United States Attorney who handled the case in the first instance. It should be accompanied by substantial factual information in the form of letters or affidavits from persons who are reliable and have a good knowledge of the subject's character, activities and loyalty to the United States. Where there is doubt of the place for filing the application, the Department of Justice, Alien Enemy Control Unit, in Washington, D. C. will furnish to a proper party the name and address of the U.S. Attorney in charge of the case. In general the case of an internee cannot be reopened unless the application and supporting papers clearly disclose either new evidence or point out important aspects of the case which were not considered at the first hearing. The applicant should notify the department of Justice, Alien Enemy Control Unit of the filing of his application with the United States Attorney.

B. Delay in considering applications and conducting hearings.

An investigation has revealed that there are several factors, which create an unavoidable delay in considering such applications. The procedure for obtaining hearings requires that the petition be forwarded to the local United States Attorney to be passed on by him before it is communicated to the Department of Justice. Some time is necessarily consumed in this process. Since the internment camps are situated at considerable distances from some of the United States Attorney's districts, it is necessary that a number of cases be accumulated before the hearings can be held. In the process of accumulating these cases, the United States Attorney not infrequently fails to answer individual petitions until the cases can be examined and viewed as a group. All applications receive due attention and are considered with such promptness as the situation permits.

C. Possibility of release under parole of Japanese nationals whose sons are American citizens by birth and are serving in the United States Army.

An investigation has revealed that the appropriate American authorities are of the opinion that no rule of general application can be made with regard to this matter, since the enlistment or drafting of a son does not necessarily reflect the attitude of the parent. A procedure has been established, however, by which the case of an interned alien enemy will be carefully reconsidered with a view to release or parole upon receipt of information that the subject's son has joined the armed forces of the United States. When the circumstances of a case would seem to justify such action, a parole or release will be ordered.

FAMILY INTERNMENT CAMPS.

A. Procedure

The Alternative to applying for a rehearing is to apply for a reunion of the family at one of the proposed family internment camps. As soon as additional facilities ~~are~~ now under preparation are available, consideration will be given to transferring such applicants and their wives and younger children to a family camp. Transfer will not take place immediately. This is due to the fact that considerable cross checking with the Justice Department is necessary to avoid transferring to the camp any internees who may be paroled and could therefore join families at the relocation centers. It may not be possible to move all cases from any center at one time. Some cases may receive prior attention depending upon the Department of Justice. As space and other factors permit adult children will be admitted to the family camps, subject, however, to certain limitations which arise out of the requirement that persons who enter such camps must be prepared to remain there on a permanent basis. This, of course, will tend to exclude students and others who for any reason may find it necessary to leave the camp at periodic intervals.

B. Facts about the Family Reunion Camp at Crystal City, Texas, as taken from the MINIDOKA IRRIGATOR - May 29, 1943 and June 5, 1943

1. Location - Approximately one hundred twenty miles southwest of San Antonio, Texas.
2. Climate - Mild: heat somewhat excessive during summer months.
3. Water - Approved city water from deep wells.
4. Housing - Individual family units in duplex, triplex or quadruple; types of buildings, frame construction with wood or gypsum board siding and with gypsum board partitions; concrete floors and electric lights. Floor space from 40 to 70 square feet per individual, depending upon composition of families and ages of children.
5. Housekeeping Facilities - Each housing unit has a kitchen sink with running cold water, and oil stove with oven for cooking and heating, essential cooking utensils and dishes. Each duplex and triplex building has one toilet and lavatory. Persons occupying units in the quadruple building use central toilet facilities. Essential items of furniture and furnishings are supplied some of which are made on the project by internees.
6. Schools - It is intended to provide standard grammar and high school courses. These schools will not be in operation before the beginning of the fall term. To the fullest extent possible teachers will be selected from internees, but the Government will furnish such teachers as are needed.
7. Library - Provision is made for a library but at the present time very few books have been received. Effort will be made to secure additional books.

8. Visiting - Visits of limited duration are permitted, but must be approved in advance by the Officer in Charge, Children who do not enter the camp may visit relatives who are interned, under certain specified conditions. Such visits by those in relocation centers will be contingent upon approval of leave for such purposes by the center project director.
9. Departure- As a general policy a person accepting voluntary internment will not be permitted to leave the camp while the interned member of the family remains in that status. However, in exceptional cases, application to depart from the camp will be accepted, approval to be based on the merits of each individual application.
10. Pets - No pets are permitted at the camp.
11. Personal Property which may be brought to the camp - The quarters occupied by individual family groups are small and the space in which personal property may be stored is limited. Persons may bring with them or have shipped to them at Government expense personal clothing, toilet article, hot water bottle small items of household equipment, such as portable sewing machines, scatter rugs, curtains, couch cover small long-wave radios receivers, small tools for craft and gardenwork, garden hose, small electrical appliances, such as irons, sports equipment, such as ~~app~~racquets, balls, bats, a limited number of books and small table games. Other articles may be brought only after securing in advance specific approval from the Officer in Charge. The application for permission to present such articles should explain the need and intended use thereof and its approximate size and weight.
12. Canteen - A canteen operated by internees, is available where internees may purchase with their own funds articles desired.
13. Laundry - A central power operated laundry has been established for the laundering of sheets, pillow cases, work clothes, etc. A central hand laundry with stationary tubs is available for the laundering of personal apparel.
14. Sanitary Facilities - Adequate community bath houses and toilet facilities are available. These facilities are separate for the different racial groups.
15. Hospital facilities - Adequate hospital and dental facilities are ~~also~~ available either in the town of Crystal City or at the internment camp.
16. Opportunity for Pay Work - Internees engaged in performance of work not connected with the management, administration or maintenance of the facilities will be paid at the rate of 80¢ per hours. Certain projects to

provide useful employment have already been organized, such, for example, as a farm and the manufacture of clothing and household furniture and furnishings. The opportunity for paid work, however, is limited.

17. Recreation-Adequate space and equipment for outdoor recreation will be provided and the internee will be afforded an opportunity to organize their own sports. Motion pictures for amusement and educational purposes are shown twice weekly.
18. Internee-Organizations. Internees are represented by an elected spokesman and council. The Japanese and Germans have separate organizations.
19. Citizenship. Citizenship will not be affected by voluntary internment. The WRA has no reason to believe that persons going to such a camp will be arbitrarily or forcibly repatriated or expatriated to be sent back after the war.
20. Financial-Matters. All money or checks sent to interned individuals must be deposited with the official financial officer and thereafter the funds handled through said officer. Money in the hands of any person at any one time will be limited, possibly to \$10.
21. Censorship. All mail and parcels entering or leaving the camp are subject to examination and censoring by camp authorities. International mail is censored in New York. The number of letters and postcards per individual is permitted to send must be limited. However, at least two letters and postcards per week will be permitted.
22. Eligibility for Transfer to Camp- Transfer from a WRA center will be in the best interests of all members thereof and of the Government.
23. Nationalities. Internees of both Japanese and German nationalities and their wives and children will occupy this facility. A small number of persons of other nationalities may also be detained here. Insofar as it is practicable, each group will be permitted to have its own facilities but it will be necessary for them to share certain of the major facilities, such as the Hospital, store, auditorium, outdoor recreational facilities and main laundry.
24. Property Management. The appropriate War Relocation Authority Property Management officials will continue to care for any property left by the families either in the relocation center or at their former residence. Internees may communicate directly with the Property Officer of the War Relocation Authority regarding the handling of their property.

Repatri.

CONFIDENTIAL

Mr. Paul A. Taylor
Project Director
Jerome Relocation Center
Dermott, Arkansas

MAR 27 1943

X

Dear Mr. Taylor:

This will refer to your teletype of March 25 on the subject of repatriation and expatriation. A confirmation copy of my teletype to you in reply is enclosed for your information.

Some evidence has reached us in the last few days which would indicate that at least part of the new crop of repatriates is prompted to apply for exchange to Japan, not so much by a desire to return to a country to which they are basically loyal, as because of a feeling of resignation to a belief that prejudice against them in the United States is so strong that even though they are American-born citizens, there is no real place for them in the United States, our professions of democracy notwithstanding. It seems quite possible, indeed likely, that the present wave of applications for repatriation represents a swing of the emotional pendulum similar to that in the early days of assembly center life when a large number asked to be repatriated. Apparently a good many of those who earlier requested repatriation decided, on more mature deliberation, that they would prefer to stay in the United States after all. I anticipate that somewhat the same thing may happen after this emotional surge.

Moreover, certain discussions are now in process which, if successful, should go a long way to convince the loyal Japanese Americans that their position in the United States is not one of disfranchisement, of being "part time Americans", as one evacuee so aptly put it, but rather that our devotion to democratic principles is really genuine. If these developments materialize, as we are working and hoping for, the present attitude of resignation among some of the evacuees should be replaced by one of hope. If, therefore, the opportunity to register for repatriation could be deferred a little while, I think it would be very desirable. On the other hand, I recognize that it may have been necessary in the course of the recent registration to promise an opportunity to apply for repatriation at an early date, and if you have already gone on record, of course the only thing to do is to make good on your commitment.

FILE COPY

As I indicated in my teletype, there is considerable doubt that very many of the new crop of repatriates can be included in the next sailing of the Gripsholm, if and when that sailing occurs. For your information, the United States made a proposition to the Japanese Government early in the current year, assuring that Government that the United States desired to proceed with the exchange, and asking that the Japanese Government accept the several thousand persons of Japanese Ancestry in the United States who had requested repatriation, even though their names had not appeared on any list submitted by the Japanese. The Japanese Government acknowledged this communication and left the way open to accept or modify our proposal, but so far we have had no word of any further development. We, therefore, have as yet no indication that the Japanese Government is willing to accept people who have not been named on its lists, nor indeed, that it is willing to continue the exchange on any acceptable basis.

Another peculiar aspect of the whole situation is, that of all persons in relocation centers named by the Japanese Government on the lists submitted to us by the State Department, something less than ten percent have indicated a willingness to return to Japan.

I have no desire to stop any evacuee from asking for repatriation if his mind is clearly made up. I think, however, it is essential to do everything we can to insure that the applications represent a deliberate choice as the result of mature deliberation.

As you noticed in my teletype of March 17, General DeWitt has registered objection to the further use of forms carrying any reference to the Army or to the Western Defense Command. As our supply of the earlier forms has been exhausted except for those now on projects, we are having a new supply prepared. These should be available on projects sometime within the next two or three weeks.

With respect to your question "what is the minimum age a minor may refuse to ask for repatriation or expatriation if parents insist on repatriation", it is our judgment that the United States cannot be in the position of forcing some of its citizens to go to Japan. Obviously, of course, children who have not reached the age of discretion, and who are completely dependent upon their parents, will want to go with their parents and will be guided by their parents' decision. On the other hand, children vary in the age at which they become competent to make up their own minds and are able to take personal responsibility for their actions. Hence, I believe, we should not set any arbitrary age. However, there is the question of responsibility for the child if he stays in this country. Some children over 16 years of age will be perfectly able to "hoe their own row", others may need to have the guidance of some family who is staying in the United States and is willing to take some responsibility for them. I believe this is a problem that requires to be worked out on an individual case basis. For this reason, Administrative Instruction No. 65, paragraph VII D, was left flexible.

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There is no basis in law for establishing 16, or 18, or 21 years as the age at which children must take their parents' decision on repatriation. Even with respect to minors and their property rights, the courts will, on occasion, admit the right of a minor to differ from his parents. Similarly, in this matter of repatriation, I think all children who have reached an age at which they appear to be able to make decisions for themselves and to take responsibility for their actions should be allowed to do so.

I should be grateful for any observations or comments you may care to make on this rather complex subject.

Sincerely yours,

Director

D. J. Myer

Enclosure
BRStaubert:hks
March 27, 1943

BR
Staubert

FILE COPY

WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY
WASHINGTON

413 Re

*Ernest
Myer*

Berkeley

JUN 18 1943

Handwritten initials

scb

Handwritten signature

RMB

LETTER TO ALL PROJECT DIRECTORS

SUBJECT: Repatriation

Recent developments give increased hope for a second sailing of the Gripsholm to effect a further exchange with Japan sometime during summer. There is a possibility of a sailing sometime in July, although no date has yet been set, and it is too early to discuss specific dates. We are maintaining close contact with the State Department, and as soon as either the date or the sailing list has been agreed upon, we will advise each Project. In anticipation of the exchange I should like to suggest that you review Administrative Instruction No. 65 with respect to processing repatriates, and that you confer with the appropriate members of your staff so that the machinery can be thrown into gear whenever the announcement is made. We have asked for three weeks' notice, but under the circumstances, it may not be possible to have this much leeway once arrangements are completed. We will arrange to notify the Washington Offices of the various agencies who will be concerned with assisting in the processing at the Projects, and their representatives will doubtless appear very shortly after the official announcement is made.

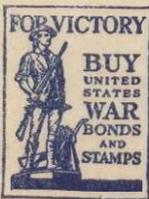
The capacity of the exchange vessel is approximately 1500 persons. At the present time it is a reasonable speculation that perhaps as many as 500 of these may come from relocation centers, but that figure is subject to revision, either upwards or downwards.

For your information, we are enclosing extracts from two recent press releases issued by the Department of State on the subject of the exchange. These may be published in the project newspapers in whole or in part.

Sincerely yours,

D.S. Myer
Director

Enclosure



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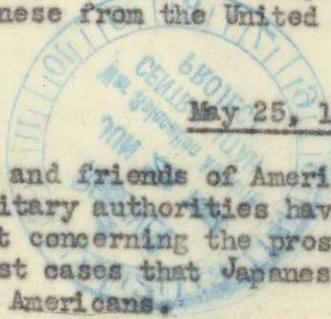
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EXTRACTS FROM STATE DEPARTMENT PRESS RELEASES ON REPATRIATION

May 22, 1943

For the information of the relatives and friends of American civilians held in the Far East by the Japanese authorities, the Department of State announces that it has received a communication from the Japanese Government giving reason to hope that a second exchange of approximately 1,500 American civilians for an equal number of Japanese civilians held in the United States may be arranged. The first exchange, involving the same number of civilians, took place last summer, the chartered Swedish motor vessel Gripsholm being used to transport the Japanese from the United States to Lourenco Marques in Portuguese East Africa where the exchange took place and the liberated Americans, who were received there from Japanese vessels, being brought home on the Gripsholm. While arrangements were being made for that exchange, the Department entered into negotiations with the Japanese Government for a second and further exchanges. It has continuously pursued those negotiations in the hope that an agreement could be reached mutually acceptable to both Governments. In its latest proposal the Department suggested that a minimum of three more exchanges be agreed upon, which would involve the repatriation of 1,500 on each exchange. The reply of the Japanese Government indicates that that Government prefers for the time being to limit consideration to one exchange, involving the repatriation of 1,500 persons on each side, and that subsequent exchanges be left for future consideration.

As in the first exchange, there will be included a number of citizens of the other American Republics and of Canada on a proportionate basis with citizens of the United States. Similarly, a number of Japanese from the other American Republics and from Canada will be included with Japanese from the United States.


May 25, 1943

Relatives and friends of Americans held as prisoners of war by the Japanese military authorities have inquired of various agencies of the Government concerning the prospects for their early repatriation, suggestion in most cases that Japanese prisoners of war be offered in exchange for the Americans.

There are three distinct categories of American nationals in Japanese custody, namely:

1. Prisoners of war, that is, members of the American armed forces who have been captured by the Japanese armed forces.
2. Sanitary and religious personnel captured while serving with the armed forces, and

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3. Civilians in Japan or Japanese-occupied or controlled territory, the majority of whom have been interned.

The status of negotiations for an exchange of civilian nationals between the United States and Japan was discussed in press release no. 206 of May 22, 1943.

There is no customarily accepted practice among nations nor provision of international law or conventions for the return or exchange during war of able-bodied members of the armed forces of one belligerent captured by the forces of the opposing belligerents. It is a major objective of warfare to deplete as rapidly as possible the forces of the enemy, and it has so far been deemed inexpedient for military reasons to propose the release and return to the United States of able-bodied prisoners of war. In the circumstances, there is no immediate prospect of obtaining the release and return to the United States of able-bodied members of the American armed forces taken prisoners of war by the Japanese.

The only prisoners of war whose release and return to their own country is provided for and sanctioned by international agreement and practice are the seriously sick and seriously wounded who are no longer capable of contributing to the enemy war effort. The release and return of such prisoners is provided for in the Geneva Prisoners of War Convention of 1929 which both Japan and the United States are applying in this war. Steps are already under way for implementing the relevant provisions of that Convention. Military operations and the difficulties of transportation through military zones are the principal obstacles at present in the way of such a movement.

Negotiations are also under way for the release and return of such captured sanitary and religious personnel as may not be needed to care for their compatriots who are prisoners of war.

Every endeavor is being made to obtain the release as quickly as possible of those eligible therefor and all feasible steps are being taken to provide for the well-being of all our nationals of whatever category in enemy hands until such time as they be offered an opportunity to return to their homes in the United States.

16080

subject: repatriation.

THIS IS FIRST OF THREE TELETYPES COVERING LATEST DEVELOPMENTS OF EXTREMELY URGENT CHARACTER. SECOND TELETYPE WILL COVER INFORMATION ON TRAIN SCHEDULES. THIRD TELETYPE WILL COVER ADDITIONAL NAMES OF PERSONS ON SAILING LIST.

NEW NOTE FROM JAPANESE GOVERNMENT STATES NO EXCHANGE POSSIBLE UNLESS SAILING FROM JERSEY CITY NOT LATER THAN SEPTEMBER 1. GRIPSHOLM ONLY HOPE GETTING BADLY NEEDED RED CROSS SUPPLIES AND MEDICINES TO AMERICANS IN FAR EAST, CONSEQUENTLY ALL INTERESTED AGENCIES OF THIS GOVERNMENT COOPERATING FULLY TO ACCOMPLISH EXCHANGE SAILING SEPTEMBER 1.

PERSONS WHOSE NAMES ALREADY TRANSMITTED YOU SHOULD BE ADVISED PREPARE IMMEDIATELY. ANY ADDITIONAL NAMES WILL FOLLOW IN REPATRIATION TELETYPE NO. 3 TODAY OR TOMORROW. TOTAL NUMBER REPATRIATES TO GO FROM ALL RELOCATION CENTERS ABOUT 525. FOLLOWING INFORMATION ON BAGGAGE BASED ON FINAL AGREEMENT WITH JAPANESE GOVERNMENT CONCERNING EXCHANGE AND SUPERSEDES FEW ITEMS OF CONFLICTING INFORMATION PREVIOUSLY COVERED.

"A. MONEY. EVERY ADULT JAPANESE IS ALLOWED TO TAKE \$300 OUT OF THE UNITED STATES. A JAPANESE UNDER 21 YEARS OF AGE TRAVELING INDEPENDENTLY OR AS THE HEAD OF A FAMILY WILL ALSO BE PERMITTED TO TAKE \$300.

B. BAGGAGE. JAPANESE ARE ALLOWED TO TAKE WITH THEM THEIR PERSONAL EFFECTS, LIMITED TO THREE SUITCASES OF STATEROOM BAGGAGE AND 30 CUBIC FEET OF HOLD BAGGAGE. THESE EFFECTS MUST BE IN TRUNKS, HANDLUGGAGE AND BOXES WITH HANDLES.

PAPER CARTONS OR BASKETS THAT MAY BE CRUSHED AND BROKEN ARE NOT PERMITTED. CHILDREN BETWEEN THE AGES OF 5 AND 10 YEARS MAY TAKE WITH THEM 15 CUBIC FEET OF HOLD BAGGAGE AND CHILDREN UNDER 5 ARE PERMITTED TO TAKE 7.2 CUBIC FEET OF HOLD BAGGAGE.

C. THE JAPANESE MAY TAKE WITH THEM THE FOLLOWING TYPES OF ARTICLES COLON IN GENERAL JAPANESE REPATRIATES~~ES~~ ARE TO BE PERMITTED TO TAKE THOSE PERSONAL AND USED HOUSEHOLD EFFECTS WHICH ARE USED IN NORMAL LIFE AND WHICH PERSONS WHO ARE TRAVELING ARE PERMITTED TO TAKE UNDER THE EXPORT CONTROL REGULATIONS OF THE U S GOVERNMENT. THUS JAPANESE REPATRIATES MAY TAKE CLOTHING OF ALL TYPES, ROBES, HOUSEHOLD LINEN, SILVERWARE, BLANKETS, KITCHEN UTENSILS, ANTIQUES, ART OBJECTS, COLLAPSIBLE BABY CARRIAGES AND SIMILAR ARTICLES IN NORMAL HOUSEHOLD USE. EXCESSIVE QUANTITIES OF CLOTHING ARE ALSO PROHIBITED, BUT THE INTERPRETATION OF THIS RESTRICTION SHOULD BE LIBERAL IN VIEW OF THE FACT THAT THE REPATRIATES WILL REQUIRE A VARIETY OF CLOTHING AS THE EXCHANGE VESSELS WILL TRAVERSE THREE CLIMATICAL ZONES AND THEY WILL NEED A SUFFICIENT QUANTITY OF CLOTHING AS THE VOYAGE WILL COVER APPROXIMATELY 90 DAY AND LAUNDRY FACILITIES WILL BE INSUFFICIENT. THE JAPANESE WILL BE PERMITTED TO RETAIN THEIR PASSPORTS FOR IDENTIFICATION PURPOSES. FOLLOWING THE EXAMINATION, CUSTOMS OFFICERS WILL STAMP IN THIS PASSPORT THE DATE, PLACE OF EXAMINATION AND THE DETENTION NUMBER OF THE PROHIBITED ARTICLES SEIZED.

D. JAPANESE REPATRIATES ARE PROHIBITED TAKING THE FOLLOWING ARTICLES COLON HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE, GARDEN TOOLS, ELECTRICAL APPLIANCES, SEWING MACHINES, RADIOS, MECHANICAL EQUIPMENT, TYPEWRITERS, OTHER THAN PORTABLE TYPEWRITERS, CAMERAS, PHOTOGRAPHIC

EQUIPMENTS, BINOCULARS, FIREARMS AND OTHER WEAPONS, RATIONED FOOD STUFFS, GOLD OBJECTS EXCEPT PERSONAL JEWELRY, PROFESSIONAL INSTRUMENTS EXCEPT DOCTOR'S INSTRUMENTS, WHICH ARE INCLUDED AMONG THE DOCTOR'S PERSONAL EFFECTS AND ARE OF A NATURE USUALLY CARRIED BY GENERAL PRACTITIONERS. FOOD STUFFS, TOILET ARTICLES, TOBACCO PRODUCTS, MEDICINES AND DRUGS, WHICH ARE IN EXCESS OF THE AMOUNT NORMALLY CARRIED BY TRAVELERS, MAY NOT BE INCLUDED IN THE CATEGORY OF PERSONAL EFFECTS. PHOTOGRAPHS, PRINTED MATTER, SKETCHES, EXCEPT PORTRAITS, DOCUMENTS OR PAPERS OF ANY KIND EXCEPT JAPANESE PASSPORTS ARE PROHIBITED. AMERICAN PASSPORTS ARE PROHIBITED."

ABOVE IS FOR INFORMATION YOURSELF AND REPATRIATES AND MAY BE POSTED PUBLICLY IF CONSIDERED DESIRABLE. PROJECT OFFICIALS HAVE NO RESPONSIBILITY TO ENFORCE ABOVE PROVISIONS AND NEED ONLY ADVISE REPATRIATES FULLY. CUSTOMS INSPECTORS WILL MAKE BOTH BAGGAGE AND PERSONAL OR BODY SEARCH AND WILL HAVE FULL AUTHORITY TO REMOVE PROHIBITED ARTICLES, PAPERS, FUNDS, ETC.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT AGENCIES REGRET SHORT NOTICE AND ANY INCONVENIENCE OCCASIONED THEREBY BUT THE SEPTEMBER 1 DATE IS A STIPULATION OF JAPANESE GOVERNMENT WHICH AT PRESENT APPEARS TO BE ULTIMATUM ON EXCHANGE. PLEASE ACKNOWLEDGE RECEIPT OF THIS TELETYPE.

B R STAUBER WRA WA

EXCERPT FROM R. NISHIMOTO'S LETTER
DATED AUG. 9, 1944

"In July, 1944, the WRA announced that it would accept applications for repatriation and expatriation. It gave a great deal of encouragement. It also gave an illusion that exchanges between the two countries would take place frequently. Furthermore, the WRA failed to mention the possible consequences of such applications. Having gone through ms by Morton, I found that the WRA as early as May, 1942, had a plan to segregate Japanese using the applications as one of the criterias for the segregation. It appears as if the WRA tricked these people."



I don't think this follows.
In early days, segregation thought of
~~below~~ as simple separation between
those who chose ~~to stay~~ to live future
life in Japan & those who chose
America. So far as I know "the illusion"
given evacuees re: frequent repatriation
exchanges was also shared by U.S.A.
Administrators. Would like to
discuss this with Dept.